DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

CHILDREN'S DIVISION

P. O. BOX 88

JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI

August 21, 2006

What's Inside:

Information about the Linking Hearts Adoption Event in Rolla, MO

MEMORANDUM

TO: REGIONAL EXECUTIVE STAFF, CIRCUIT MANAGERS, AND

CHILDREN'S DIVISION STAFF

FROM: PAULA NEESE, INTERIM DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: LINKING HEARTS COMMUNITY ADOPTION EVENT

REFERENCE: CHILDREN'S DIVISION

DISCUSSION:

We are pleased to announce the Linking Hearts Community Adoption Event! This activity is a wonderful opportunity for the Children's Division, the Phelps County Community Partnership and the University of Missouri-Rolla Inter-fraternity Council to provide prospective adoptive families with the opportunity to interact with children in need of permanent homes. For over a decade Linking Hearts events have resulted in creating new families for waiting children, as well as increasing community awareness of the need for adoptive homes for children from foster care.

This year's event will be held on Friday, September 22nd at Lion's Club Park in Rolla, Missouri. Registration for children will begin at 1:00 p.m. at The Centre. Activities will include swimming, basketball and other indoor activities followed by outdoor activities such as craft and project stations. Prospective adoptive parents are invited to join the festivities beginning at 5:00 p.m. The evening event will include carnival games, music and a picnic with the children. Registration forms and an agenda are attached. Directions to Lion's Club Park and The Centre may be obtained by visiting the Linking Hearts website at:

http://www.thepccp.org/our_programs/linking_hearts/

Counties are encouraged to participate in this event by registering children and inviting prospective adoptive parents to attend. Please use the attached flyers to invite families to this recruitment activity.

This has proven to be an enjoyable and informative adoption recruitment event for prospective families and adoption workers over the years. We strongly encourage your participation and support of this activity.

If you have questions about Linking Heats, please contact the 25th Circuit Adoption Unit at 573-774-6121 or 573-368-2340

NECESSARY ACTION:

- 1. Review this memorandum with all Children's Division staff.
- 2. Complete appropriate attached forms for children and adults who will accompany children attending this event.
- 3. Share the attached Building Families Flyer with adoptive families within your counties.
- 4. Post the attached Flyer for Public Recruitment throughout your community.
- 5. All questions should be cleared through normal supervisory channels and directed to the 25th Circuit Adoption unit.

PDS CONTACT:

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ATTACHMENTS:

Child Registration Form Adult Registration Form

Agenda for Workers

Building Families Flyer
Flyer for Public Recruitment